

Message Text

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ACTION INT-05

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1093

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 6283

DEPT. PASS INTERIOR/USFWS- DR. GERARD BERTRAND

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TBIO, TPHY, OSCI, IN
SUBJECT: DEPT OF INTERIOR/FISH AND WILD LIFE SERVICE
SFC COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM

1. SCIATT PASSED BERTRAND MARCH 30 LETTER TO NALINI JAYAL, JOINT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE. JAYAL SAYS HE HAS RECEIVED PROJECT DRAFTS FROM TWO INSTITUTION (BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY AND THE WORLD WIDLIFE FUND), BUT IS STILL WAITING FOR DRAFTS FROM OTHER AGENCIES. HE HAD GIVEN AGENCIES INTERESTED IN PROJECTS A MID-APRIL DEADLINE WHICH HE HAS NOW EXTENDED TILL THE END OF THE MONTH. WE AGREED TO CONSULT AGAIN AT THAT TIME TO SEE HOW MANY PROPOSALS HE HAS RECEIVED AND WHAT SHAPE THEY ARE IN. JAYAL'S INCLINATION WAS TO SUGGEST THAT BERTRAND WAIT UNTIL THE PROJECTS HAVE BEEN CLEARED BY THE GOI SCREENING COMMITTEE BEFORE COMING BACK TO INDIA. SCIATT SUGGESTED THAT RATHER THAN WAIT FOR WHAT COULD BE LENGTHY APPROVAL PROCESS CULMINATING IN A PROJECT THAT WAS FIRM IN EVERY DETAIL IT MIGHT BE WISER TO LOOK AT THE RESEARCH PROPOSALS BEFORE THEIR FORMAL SUBMISSION TO THE GOI SCREENING COMMITTEE AND SEE WHETHER A MAY OR JUNE CONSULTATION WITH BERTRAND WOULD BE HELPFUL. WE WILL ADVISE WHAT THE SITUATION IS IN EARLY MAY, BUT MEANWHILE SUGGEST THAT BERTRAND KEEP HIS TRAVEL PLANS AS FLEXIBLE AS POSSIBLE.

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PAGE 02 NEW DE 06283 240246Z

2. JAYAL DID FEEL THAT A MARINE PARK SPECIALIST WOULD BE A USEFUL ADDITION TO BERTRAND'S TEAM. ON THE PROPOSED PRIMATE STUDIES, MR. JAYAL SAID THAT THE INITIAL REACTION OF OTHER CONCERNED AGENCIES HAD BEEN THAT THESE APPEARED TO DUPLICATE OTHER WORK ALREADY IN PROGRESS. WITHOUT HAVING SEEN THE PROPOSALS, EMBASSY IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE FURTHER

DETAILS ON WHICH EXISTING RESEARCH EFFORTS THEY MIGHT APPEAR
TO DUPLICATE, BUT WE DO KNOW THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY, WHICH HAS BEEN THE LEAD AGENCY IN THE GOI FOR
PRIMATE RESEARCH, HAS INSISTED THAT ALL US APPLICATIONS
CONNECTED WITH RESEARCH ON PRIMATES RECEIVE THE BLESSING OF
THE US INTERAGENCY PRIMATE STEERING COMMITTEE BEFORE BEING
SUBMITTED TO THE GOI. DR. BERTRAND MAY WISH TO EXPLORE WITH
DR. BENJAMIN BLOOD OF NIH.
GOHEEN

NOTE BY OC/T: TELEGRAM DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.

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Message Attributes

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